

**PUBLIC HEALTH AND MEDICAL (EMERGENCY FUNCTION 08)
SITUATION REPORT
EBOLA VIRUS DISEASE, 2014
DATE OF REPORT: OCTOBER 24, 2014
OPERATIONAL PERIOD: OCTOBER 20 - OCTOBER 24, 2014
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AUTHORITY**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

There are currently no suspected or confirmed cases of the Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) in California. At present, the situational assessment for the risk of EVD infection in California remains very low.

The outbreak of EVD in Guinea, Sierra Leone, and Liberia of West Africa continues to expand but does not pose a significant risk to the United States. As of October 19, the World Health Organization has reported a cumulative total of 9936 suspect, probable, and confirmed cases and 4877 deaths.

The CDC, California Department of Public Health (CDPH), California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES), State level Emergency Function 08 partners, and Emergency Medical Services Authority (EMSA) continue to prepare for the management of potential EVD cases in California.

CDPH continues to work with the healthcare community and local health jurisdictions to identify potential suspect cases and avoid spread of the disease. New guidelines and updated guidelines released by CDC are posted on the CDPH website available at: (<http://cdph.ca.gov/programs/cder/Pages/Ebola.aspx>). CDPH and local health jurisdictions are monitoring the situation closely and are taking steps to keep the public safe. EMSA has developed guidelines for Emergency Medical Services (EMS) personnel based on the recommendations of CDC and the California Department of Industrial Relations (DIR). The guidelines have been distributed to Local Emergency Medical Services Agency (LEMSA) Administrators, LEMSAs Medical Directors and the Regional Disaster Medical Health Coordination (RDMHC) Program. The document is posted on EMSA's website at http://www.emsa.ca.gov/ebola_control. These guidelines will be updated as the situation evolves.

CDPH continues to recommend that healthcare providers implement the protocols established by the CDC about how to detect and isolate patients who may have EVD and about how healthcare workers exposed to EVD can be protected. The CDC

advises that healthcare providers in the U.S. should consider an EVD infection in the differential diagnosis of febrile illness, with compatible symptoms, in any person with recent (within 21 days) travel history in Guinea, Sierra Leone, and Liberia. The CDC advises people returning from the affected areas who may be at high risk for EVD should be promptly isolated and their blood sent to CDC for testing.

DUTY OFFICERS ON CALL

Table 1. Duty Officers On Call		
Agency/Program	Duty Officer Information	
CDPH Duty Officer	Name:	Deborah Holmes
	Contact Information:	916-328-3605
EPO Duty Officer	Name:	Andrew Vellos
	Contact Information:	916-328-9025
EMSA Duty Officer	Name:	Markell Pierce
	Contact Information:	916-423-0911

CDPH/DHCS/EMSA CURRENT OPERATIONS

The CDPH internal workgroup to address all public health aspects of the EVD response meets daily.

CENTER FOR INFECTIOUS DISEASES (CID) DIVISION OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CONTROL (DCDC)

- **Epidemiology and Surveillance Activities**
 - Significant Issues:
 - Clinical consultation and coordination of Ebola testing on a suspect Ebola patient. Tests performed at L.A. County Public Health Laboratory (LAC PHL) and at CDC were negative.
 - Assisted with preparation of response to legislative inquiry from California Assembly member Roger Dickinson.
 - Consulted with Local Health Departments (LHDs) on three (3) potential suspect cases. All cases were ruled out and no testing was ordered.
 - Responded to or redirected numerous emails/phone calls from LHDs related to planning aspects of preparedness.
 - New clinical consultants have been identified and will be trained.
 - Epi/Surveillance project teams continue to work on three products:
 - Contact Tracing/Management Plan
 - Returning Traveler Tracking Plan

- Deployment Team Plan (Resource to be made available to assist LHDs with Contact Tracing, Data Management, and Logistics).
 - LHDs are working with Division of Communicable Disease Control (DCDC) clinical consultants to determine both the clinical criteria and risk factors for persons suspected of having EVD.
 - CDPH has been notified by CDC of 12 travelers who have returned to California from one of the affected countries in West Africa. The individuals have been or are currently being contacted by local public health officials (10 travelers still under follow-up). Two individuals did not require further follow-up after being contacted by their LHD because they did not travel to countries currently affected by the Ebola outbreak.
 - Critical Issues:
 - Guidance from CDC regarding returning traveler recommendations is pending. Epi/Surveillance staff continues to work on guidance while waiting for CDC recommendations.
 - Program Impacts:
 - Significant program impact on day-to-day activities of DCDC clinical consultants and staff that participate in Richmond Campus Coordination Center (RCCC) activities. DCDC branches are setting aside non-essential functions to handle Ebola workload.
- **Laboratory Activities**
- Significant Issues:
 - Viral Rickettsial Disease Laboratory (VRDL) received the DoD Ebola Zaire PCR kit from the CDC LRN.
 - VRDL is continuing to address laboratory testing readiness, including procurement of PPE and needed reagents and supplies prior to testing Ebola specimens.
 - VRDL is seeking an outside contractor to verify the safety of the VRDL BSL-3 facility.
 - The VRDL risk assessment is being conducted in line with APHL recommendations and is similar to the LAC PHL risk assessment, which was shared by the LAC PHL Director.
 - Critical Issues:
 - Shortage of proper personal protective equipment (correct clothing sizes and respirators).
 - Need for training of VRDL BSL-3 staff in proper donning and doffing of PPE.
 - Need for Category “A” Packaging and Shipping training of staff at both VRDL and local public health laboratories.
 - Program Impacts:
 - Significant impact on day-to-day activities of staff involved in risk assessment and procurement activities.

- Shortage of PPE will delay training of VRDL staff in donning and doffing procedures.

- **Infection Control Activities**

- Significant Issues: See CDC document below on guidance on PPE for Healthcare Workers.
- Critical Issues:
 - CDPH is receiving numerous questions regarding applicability and feasibility of the new PPE guidance in lower risk healthcare settings, e.g., clinics and Emergency Departments receiving low-risk suspects. CDPH and partner agencies have convened a PPE Workgroup to develop interim PPE guidance for these settings.
 - There are many reports of healthcare facilities encountering shortages and/or difficulty obtaining recommended PPE.
 - There is a strong need for development and/or dissemination of training materials on proper use of PPE.
- Program Impacts:
 - Significant impact on day-to-day activities of staff across programs and agencies, resulting in setting aside non-essential functions to handle Ebola workload.

- **Information Officer Activities**

- **Key Messages**
 - Ebola is NOT an airborne transmitted virus. Isolation and personal protective equipment are focused on **CONTACT ISOLATION** as recommended by the CDC.
 - CDPH and EMSA have a plan and processes for response to Ebola.
 - California's hospitals have the capability and capacity to manage Ebola patients.

- **Medical countermeasures**

- There are no updates at this time.

- **Community mitigation**

- There are no updates at this time.

- **Other DCDC actions**

- Resource Requests/Needs:
 - World Courier account for Ebola shipping.

- Cache of cell phones for responders (received 2 from EPO, mobilized one from Communicable Disease Emergency Response (CDER) Branch to date). Pending submission of formal justification and request from RCCC to CDPH Executive Branch.

- **CDC Documents Released this Operational Period**

- Guidance on Personal Protective Equipment To Be Used by Healthcare Workers During Management of Patients with Ebola Virus Disease in U.S. Hospitals, Including Procedures for Putting On (Donning) and Removing (Doffing): <http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/hcp/procedures-for-ppe.html>
- When Caring for Suspect or Confirmed Patients with Ebola <http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/hcp/caring-for-ebola-suspects.html>
- Poster for Healthcare workers: <http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/pdf/could-it-be-ebola.pdf>

CDPH DOCUMENTS/MATERIALS RELEASED THIS REPORTING PERIOD

- Review of Human-to-Human Transmission of Ebola. <http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/transmission/human-transmission.html>
- Factsheet: Tightened Guidance for U.S. Healthcare Workers on Personal Protective Equipment for Ebola. <http://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2014/fs1020-ebola-personal-protective-equipment.html>
- Guidance on Personal Protective Equipment To Be Used by Healthcare Workers During Management of Patients with Ebola Virus Disease in U.S. Hospitals, including Procedures for Putting On (Donning) and Removing (Doffing). <http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/hcp/procedures-for-ppe.html>
- When Caring for Suspect or Confirmed Patients with Ebola. <http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/hcp/caring-for-ebola-suspects.html>
- Poster for Healthcare Workers. <http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/pdf/could-it-be-ebola.pdf>
- Recommendations for Safely Performing Acute Hemodialysis in Patients with Ebola Virus Disease in U.S. Hospitals. <http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/hcp/guidance-dialysis.html>
- Ebola-Associated Waste Management. <http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/hcp/medical-waste-management.html>
- Interim U.S. Guidance for Monitoring and Movement of Persons with Potential Ebola Virus Exposure. <http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/hcp/monitoring-and-movement-of-persons-with-exposure.html>

RICHMOND CAMPUS COORDINATION CENTER (RCCC) ACTIVITIES

- The RCCC remains activated at Level 1 with minimal staffing. Hours of operation are 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday. The DCDC and CDPH Duty Officers provide 24/7 after-hours coverage.
 - Significant Issues and Activities:
 - CID/DCDC convened a teleconference 10-22-14 with local health departments to provide updates on the Ebola response efforts and answer questions from local health departments. These meetings will continue weekly until further notice.
 - Received 10 inquiries from Local Health Departments, Healthcare Facilities, and other partners via telephone and email:
 - 5 from LHDS.
 - 3 from Healthcare Facilities.
 - 2 from other partners.
 - RCCC continues to be notified by CDC EOC, MHCC, and CDPH Branches of inquiries received from California healthcare providers
 - Critical Issues: None

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT BRANCH (EMB)

- EMB's Medical Waste Management Programs', "Ebola Virus Disease Medical Waste Management – Interim Guidelines" posted at the program's website: <http://www.cdph.ca.gov/certlic/medicalwaste/Pages/default.aspx> is currently undergoing revision and will be posted once approved.
- The DOT has indicated that states may apply for exemptions to the Category A: Infectious Substance packaging requirements.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS OFFICE (EPO)

- CDPH and EMSA continue activation of the MHCC to support activities of the RCCC and departmental programs, and enhance communication between emergency response and preparedness partners in California.
- MHCC and EPO management regularly participate in teleconferences regarding EVD with Federal, State, and local partners, assist in development of guidance documents, and coordinate CDPH program actions.
- MHCC maintains an incident on the Cal EOC website.
- CHPH has contracts in place with World Courier to accommodate transport of EVD samples.
- EPO held call center training on October 21, 2014. The call center (1-855-421-5921) was established as a point of contact for public inquiries.

DIVISION OF LICENSING AND CERTIFICATION

- The first telecom was held on October 22 with a target audience of Health Care Facilities/Providers. At this time, this telecom will be held weekly: Wednesday from 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

CAHAN ALERTS

- There was one CAHAN alert sent today. The subject was: CDC Documents on Ebola.

CAHAN PRESS/NEWS RELEASE

- There was one CAHAN Press/News Release today. The subject was: University of California Medical Centers Identified as Priority Hospitals to Treat Confirmed Ebola Cases.

EMSA CURRENT OPERATIONS

- EMSA is working with the Local Emergency Medical Services Administrators' Association of California (EMSAAC) and the Emergency Medical Directors' Association of California (EMDAC) in developing Guidance for the EMS Management of Infectious Disease such as Ebola. Local EMS Agencies (LEMSAs) are working with their ambulance providers and have identified ambulance companies that will transport these high risk patients. Contra Costa EMS Agency has developed a conceptual model for an Infectious Disease Ambulance Response Team (IDART) and other LEMSAs are developing similar models. AMR has already transported Ebola patients in Texas and is also developing special transport teams and is among the providers outfitting specialized ambulances.
- EMSA has issued guidelines for EMS personnel based upon CDC recommendations through the RDMHC and Medical and Health Coordination (MHOAC) Programs. EMSA is prepared to continue coordination with EPO, RDMHC, and MHOAC Programs.

STATE/REGION OVERVIEW

Table 2. State/Region Overview		
Region/State	Proclamation/Declaration	Activation
MHCC	None	Level I

OPERATIONAL AREA (OA) MEDICAL AND HEALTH SYSTEM OVERVIEW

- Current impacts/actions for Operational Areas are not included in this situation report as local situation reports have not been requested or provided at this time.

PUBLIC INFORMATION

October 23, 2014

- Midori Sperandeo, Capitol Television News Service (CTNS, Sacramento/Statewide Affiliates)
- Garance Burke, Associated Press
- Steve Large, KQVR-TV (Sacramento)
- Matthew Glasser, KNBC-TV (Universal City)
- Daniel Steiner, UC Berkeley Graduate School of Journalism
- Judy Lin, Associated Press

October 22, 2014

- Dan Kerman, KRON-TV (San Francisco)
- Polly Stryker and Lisa Aliferis, KQED-FM (San Francisco)
- Joey Blackwood, KOGO-AM (San Diego)
- Mike Casper, KCBS-FM (San Francisco)
- Gary Cohen, 24/7 NewsSource
- Tia Ewing, KTXL-TV (Sacramento)
- Mike Garza, KXTV-TV (Sacramento)
- Terri Hardesty, KGO-AM (San Francisco)
- Amy McKinney CTNS-TV (Sacramento/Statewide Affiliates)
- Chris Olin, KCRW-FM (Santa Monica)
- Michael Orcutt, KCRA-TV (Sacramento)
- Claudia Peschiutta, CBS Radio (Los Angeles)
- Matthew Zolynski, KQVR-TV (Sacramento)

October 21, 2014

- Monte Morin, Los Angeles Times
- Diane Ronnau, CBS Evening News
- Sharokina Shams, KCRA-TV (Sacramento)
- Kimberly Ang, California Common Sense

October 20, 2014

- Jonathan Serviss, KNX-AM (Los Angeles)
- Liz Naughton, Bay Area News Group

GUIDANCE DOCUMENTS RELEASED FROM OCTOBER 8 TO OCTOBER 24

CDC documents listed below are available on the CDC website (CDC.gov). CDPH documents listed below are available on the CDPH website (CDPH.ca.gov). The American Society of Microbiology (ASM) document can be found on the ASM website (www.asm.org). The Federal Department of Transportation (DOT) document can be found on the DOT website (www.dot.gov).

Table 3. Guidance Documents from October 8, 2014 to October 24, 2014		
Title	Source	Document Date
Facts About Ebola Infographic	CDC	
DOT Guidance for Preparing Packages of Ebola Contaminated Waste for Transportation and Disposal	DOT	
Interim U.S. Guidance for Monitoring and Movement of Persons with Potential Ebola Virus Exposure	CDPH	
Joint Airport Screening Factsheet	CDC	10-8-2014
Q&As About Ebola and Pets	CDC	10-13-2014
Cal/OSHA Interim Guidance on Ebola Virus	CDPH	10-15-2014
Update information on Ebola transmission	CDC	10-17-2014
Tightened Guidance on PPE	CDC	10-20-2014
Guidance on Personal Protective Equipment To Be Used by Healthcare Workers During Management of Patients with Ebola Virus Disease in U.S. Hospitals, Including Procedures for Putting On (Donning) and Removing	CDC	10-20-2014
When Caring for Suspect or Confirmed Patients with Ebola	CDC	10-20-2014
Review of Human-to-Human Transmission of Ebola	CDPH	10-20-2014
Factsheet: Tightened Guidance for U.S. Healthcare Workers on Personal Protective Equipment for Ebola	CDC	10-21-2014
Factsheet: CDC Taking Active Steps Related to Hospital Preparedness for Ebola Treatment	CDC	10-22-2014
Medical Waste Management	CDC	10-22-2014
Ebola-Associated Waste Management	CDPH	10-22-2014
Recommendations for Safely Performing Acute Hemodialysis in Patients with Ebola Virus Disease in U.S. Hospitals	CDPH	10-23-2014

RESOURCE REQUESTS

None

FINANCIAL IMPACTS

None